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ined with reference to their freedom from any loathsome or dangerous contagious disease.

A report of infectious diseases in Yokohama for the week ended April 23, 1905, has been received at the consulate-general as follows: Diphtheria, 2 cases, 1 death. From a quarantine standpoint sanitary conditions in Yokohama continue satisfactory.

The plague situation in Tokyo shows no new developments of importance. No additional cases of human plague have occurred in Tokyo or elsewhere in Japan, excluding Formosa.

A Tokyo newspaper of the highest standing, in its issue of April 25, reports, that a number of plague-infected rats have recently been discovered in Osaka. Rewards ranging from 5 to 7 sen per head are being offered for captured rats in that city, with the extraordinary result that on an average 5,000 of these animals are being sent in to the Osaka police stations every day. This office is without definite information as to the exact means by which plague infection has been introduced into Japan during the present year. No doubt the proximity of Formosa and the intimate communication carried on with such ports as Hongkong presents a constant menace which may severely tax the most vigilant and efficient system of quarantine.

It is noteworthy that Tokyo and Osaka, respectively, the first and second cities of the Empire, while themselves bordering on the sea-coast, chiefly carry on their foreign commerce through the medium of other ports, respectively Yokohama and Kobe, neither of which is now regarded as plague infected. It may also be mentioned that according to the latest returns available (1903) Japanese imports of Indian raw cotton amount to over 1,600,000 piculs^a annually. A recent consular report estimates the total quantity of raw cotton exported from India at 1,600,000 bales^b per year. Osaka ranks as the leading cotton-spinning center of Japan. The outbreak of plague in Tokyo in December, 1902, occurred on the compound of a cotton-spinning factory, though the cotton there stored was all of American or Egyptian production.

The recent fatal plague case in Tokyo occurred in the neighborhood of grain warehouses, in some of which plague rats had been previously found, circumstances which it is difficult to avoid connecting with the fact that large quantities of rice are imported into Japan from Rangoon and other suspicious Asiatic ports. The above facts seem to indicate that plague is introduced into this country usually through infected cargo or vermin accompanying same.

According to an official report 34 cases of plague, with 21 deaths, occurred in Formosa on the 25th instant. Cases developed in Taihoku, Giran, Shinchiku, Kagi, Ensui, and Tainan, showing that the infection is fairly well distributed over the island.

Emigrants recommended for rejection.

Number of emigrants per steamship *Siberia* for San Francisco recommended, April 29, 1905, for rejection, 3.

MEXICO.

Report from Progreso—Inspection of vessels.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Harrison reports, May 20, as follows:

During the week ended May 20, 1905, there has not occurred any

^a A picul equals 133 pounds.

^b A bale equals 396 pounds.